

**REMARKS**

The above-captioned application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/156,814, filed May 30, 2002, and which claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/294,440 filed on May 30, 2001. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has acknowledged the Applicants' domestic priority claim (See Filing Receipt, mailed March 9, 2004).

Applicants hereby abandon, for the subject application, all claim of priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/403,815, filed on December 4, 2002, and all claim of priority to International Application No. PCT/US02/16918, filed May 30, 2002.

The present amendment to the previously filed Substitute Specification has been made in accordance with Applicants abandonment of all priority claim to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/403,815, and to International Application No. PCT/US02/16918. The present amendment also corrects several minor grammatical issues in the specification and removes the incorporation by reference of the subject matter of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/403,815.

The present amendment adds no new matter and raises no new issues in the application.


**Conclusion**

Applicants respectfully request that the present amendment be entered under 37 C.R.F. § 1.312 because it pertains to an abandonment of certain priority claims that were never acknowledged by the USPTO and that the Applicants do not wish to pursue.

The below-signed attorney for Applicants welcomes any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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